



EMOR

ANNUAL: Leviticus 21:1 - 24:23
MAFTIR: Leviticus 23:23 - 24:23
HAFTARAH: Ezekiel 44:15-31

NEXT WEEK: BEHAR-BEHUKOTAI

ANNUAL: Leviticus 25:1 - 27:34
MAFTIR: Leviticus 27:1 - 27:34
HAFTARAH: Jeremiah 16:19 - 17:14

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITY
 OF THE WEEK

AIDS Walk NY 2004 (AWNY 2004) "WE WILL PRAY WITH OUR FEET"

Sunday, May 16
 7:30am in Central Park
 Help Unfurl the Aids Memorial Quilt

On **Sunday, May 16**, the BJ Awny 2004 Team #1017 will meet at the Bethesda Fountain in Central Park at 7:30 AM. BJ has been given the honor of helping to unfurl the Aids Memorial Quilt after which we will join in a prayer service. This is the first time the quilt is being displayed in New York at the Aids Walk.

People who are not registered by the day of the walk may register then.
 (See Attached Flyer.)

RABBIS

Marshall T. Meyer (1985-1993)

J. Rolando Matalon • Marcelo R. Bronstein • Felicia L. Sol

CANTOR & MUSIC DIRECTOR

Ari Priven

MARSHALL T. MEYER RABBINIC FELLOWS

Rabbi Meir Feldman • Rabbi Jessica Zimmerman • Kliel Rose

May 7 - May 14, 2004

17 Iyyar - 23 Iyyar 5764

FRIDAY, MAY 7 Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service (ASL Interpreted) Wandering Minyan Kabbalat Shabbat Service	32ND NIGHT OMER; NETZAH SHEBEHOD 6:00 PM – 88th St. 6:00 PM – 88th St. 6:45 PM – 86th St.
SATURDAY, MAY 8 Shabbat Service Bat Mitzvah Naming Speaker (p. 3) Children's Service	32ND DAY OMER; NETZAH SHEBEHOD 9:30 AM – 86th St. Hannah Bailenson Talia Evan Cohen Avraham Neguise, Director of South Wing to Zion: Association for Ingathering and Absorption of Ethiopian Jewry, Israel 10:45 AM – 86th St.
SUNDAY, MAY 9 Morning Minyan	33RD DAY OMER; HOD SHEBEHOD 9:30 AM – 88th St.
MONDAY, MAY 10 Morning Minyan Class: Introduction to Judaism, Rabbi Zimmerman Class: Ya'akov Became Yisrael, Rabbi Feldman	34TH DAY OMER; YESOD SHEBEHOD 7:30 AM – 88th St. 7:00 PM – 86th St. 7:00 PM – 86th St.
TUESDAY, MAY 11 Morning Minyan Geshet and 8th Grade Class: Creating a Space for the Contemplative, Rabbi Bronstein	35TH DAY OMER; MALKHUT SHEBEHOD 7:30 AM – 88th St. 5:00 PM – BJ Office 6:00 PM – 88th St.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 Morning Minyan Kesharim	36TH DAY OMER; HESED SHEBEYESOD 7:30 AM – 88th St. 2:00 PM – 88th St.
THURSDAY, MAY 13 Morning Minyan Judith Bernstein Lunch Program Class: Parashat HaShavua, Kliel Rose BJ Rallies to End Homelessness, with Rabbi Matalon (p. 3)	37TH DAY OMER; GEVURAH SHEBEYESOD 7:30 AM – 88th St. 12:00 PM – 88th St. 7:00 PM – BJ Office 7:00 PM – St. Paul's Chapel
FRIDAY, MAY 14 Morning Minyan	38TH DAY OMER; TIFERET SHEBEYESOD 7:30 AM – 88th St.

SHAVUOT AT BJ

Our celebration of Shavuot on **Tuesday evening, May 25**, will begin with a service at 8:30 PM, followed by a tikkun from 9 PM to midnight. The learning, led by our rabbis, will be on "Kol Dodi Hine Ze Ba. Here Comes the Voice of my Beloved." At midnight we will walk together to the JCC (Amsterdam at 76th St), to join many of the other Upper West Side synagogues and the JCC as one community to celebrate Zman Matan Torateinu – the time of the giving of the Torah. The tradition of Tikkun Leil Shavuot, all night study is expanded in a program conceived by Israeli teacher Ruth Calderon. Choose from film, music and dance performances, or Bible, literature and philosophy workshops, under one roof, all night long. You decide which of five simultaneous programs you wish to attend. For more info visit www.tikkunNY.org At 5 AM we will return to 88th Street for a Torah scroll, siddurim and tallitot and proceed to a sunrise service at 5:30 AM in Riverside Park (promenade at 90th St). Or you can join us at BJ for the morning service at 10 AM. A picnic will follow at Riverside Park at the conclusion of morning services.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAMAKOM YENAH'EM

The community of B'nai Jeshurun extends sincere condolences to the following members and their families:

- Stan and Phyllis Silver on the death of Stan's beloved father, Joseph Max Silver.
- Karen, Jacques, Katherine and Alexander Capelluto on the death of Karen's beloved mother, Sarah Collidge.
- Ann Sherman and Henry Schwartzstein on the death of Ann's beloved mother, Louise Mahler.

MAZAL TOV

- To the following members and their families:
- Hannah, Patricia and Michael Bailenson on Hannah becoming a Bat Mitzvah.
 - Jeremy, Marci, Danielle and Scott Cohen on the naming of their daughter and sister, Talia Evan Cohen.
 - Craig Charney and Shari Cohen on their upcoming wedding.
 - Silvia Heller and John Heller on the birth of their son, Daniel Joseph Heller.
 - Jill Prosky on becoming the president of the New York chapter of Hadassah.
 - Yoel Ben-Simhon, one of our BJ Kabbalat Shabbat musicians, on his new CD. (see below)

BRUKHIM HABA-IM

- 7th Grade students, Solomon Schechter School, Dallas, Texas.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

LIMUD

• Shabbat B'Yahad with Ruth Calderon

May 14: 88th St., Frankel Hall: Join us for a catered Shabbat dinner with Ruth Calderon, founder and head of Alma College, a center for advanced studies focusing on the study of Hebrew Culture. She is the author of *The Market, The Home, The Heart* – a book offering a personal homiletic reading of Talmudic legends. Cost: \$35/Mem; \$45/Non. TO REGISTER: Call x304 and follow instructions. To Submit Payment: go to www.BJ.org. She will also be doing a text study on **Saturday, May 15**, at 5:30 PM, at 88th St. This Saturday event is free.

• Rosh Hodesh Women's Group with Carol Rose

Thursday, May 20, at 7 PM, 88th St.: Join special teacher Carol Rose for Rosh Hodesh Sivan. "Images are our first language and they speak to us all the time." Some of our most powerful images come from our tradition...Egypt, Sinai, and the many journeys in-between. Each month (Rosh Hodesh), we have an opportunity to tap into these images; learning how to harness the imagination in order to use it as a source of creativity, spiritual clarity, and healing power. The trick is to become aware! Using imagery techniques, we will learn to listen to this inner language, and to dialogue with our own inner wisdom.

• Hebrew College Summer Bet Midrash Program: "Tradition and Innovation in Talmudic and Hasidic Sources"

July 6-16, Boston, MA: This summer, Hebrew College is offering a 10-day intensive study opportunity for adults (college-age and above) in a pluralistic religious setting, open to participants of different skill levels (texts will be available in the original and in English translation). The program will involve *hevrutah* (peer) study and seminar-style discussions led by HC faculty and Rabbinical School *madrihim* (study guides). Generous Fellowships are available. For more info, visit the Hebrew College website or contact Or Rose, Co-Director of the Bet Midrash, 617-559-8636, orose@hebrewcollege.edu.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

• The Sultana Ensemble CD Release Party and Concert

Thursday, May 13, 8 PM, Satalla, 37 West 26th Street, NYC: Don't miss this concert and CD Release Party of Yoel Ben-Simhon & The Sultana Ensemble, which consists of Israeli, Arab and American musicians, creating an innovative and rich sound that interweaves East and West into a fascinating musical experience. Combining the many strands of Mediterranean music – Sephardi, Arabic and Jewish Moroccan – with new world Jazz, Flamenco and other exciting sounds and rhythms, they bring to the stage a powerful performance. The CD is also available at www.sultanamusic.com and at Amazon.com & CD Baby.

• Renee Kaufman Memorial Program – "Mayor of the West Side"

Monday, May 17, 7 PM, 88th St. Sanctuary: Come watch "Mayor of the West Side," a documentary about the life of BJ member Mark Puddington, a challenged young man who has made an impact on everyone who knows him. He had his Bar Mitzvah at BJ a number of years ago and we all see him regularly at the 6 PM Friday night service. The documentary will be followed by a panel discussion with Rabbi Matalon; Mark's mother, Margaret Puddington; Judd Ehrlich, director of the documentary; Paul Cassone, sibling of an adult with disabilities and Chief Operating Officer of Lifespire (a large agency providing services to people with disabilities); and Eta Levenson, Assistant Director of the National Jewish Council for Disabilities. **Admission is free.**

• Spirituality, Religious Wisdom and the Care of the Patient

The next interfaith dialogue of the 2004 colloquium series *Spirituality, Religious Wisdom, and the Care of the Patient* will take place at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, 1275 York Ave., Room M 107, on **Monday, May 17** from 5:30-7:30 PM. The topic is "Sadness in the Context of Illness: A Catholic/Jewish Dialogue." Richard Rohr, OFM, and Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller will speak. The program is free of charge but pre-registration is encouraged as seating is limited. Phone 212-604-8140 or e-mail spiritcare@svcmcnyc.org. For additional info and directions, go to www.nymc.edu/bioethics/ then select conferences.

• BJ GOES TO THE SALUTE TO ISRAEL PARADE

Sunday, May 23: Travel to Israel is this year's parade theme and BJ joins under the theme, "WE CARE, WE'RE THERE!" Please register to march with us at x254 or dpinsky@bj.org. Meet at Fifth Avenue between 52nd and 53rd at 11:30 AM. Our start time will be 12 noon.

• Annual BJ Community Retreat

June 4-6: Community Retreat. Block & Hexter Vacation Center, Poyntelle, Pennsylvania. Join us for our 12th annual congregational community retreat. Look for registration forms in the mail, at the BJ office and on line at www.bj.org. Please register early, as the retreat fills up quickly! For more information, call Anne Kohn at x240.

• SAVE THE DATE for BJ's Annual Meeting:

Thursday June 17, 7 PM at 88th St.!

• **Silent Art Auction At BJ**

You have a unique opportunity to benefit Congregation B'nai Jeshurun by participating in a silent auction of works of art created exclusively for our community and donated by professional artist and BJ member Pamela Prichett. These original pieces – which appear in *P'nei Shabbat*, the *Children's Siddur*, our *With Every Breath* CD, and the *Zimrat Yah* – have enriched our imaginations through marvelous images of Shabbat song, dance, and prayer that capture our vibrant Jewish life at BJ. View the art and peruse the catalogue information at 88th St. in Frankel Hall or on the web at www.bj.org and enter your name, phone number and bid for the works of art that interest you.

• **SUMMER PROGRAMS IN ISRAEL**

Part I: Ethical Dilemmas in the Renewed State of Israel: An introspective look at Israeli Society – Summer Study in Jerusalem

Friday, July 2 - Thursday, July 8: Experience a unique learning seminar in Jerusalem with Rabbi Matalon and BJ members, as well as members of other New York synagogues and Jewish organizations. This summer, our study at Kolot will focus on examining the ways Israeli society defines itself in relation to the enemy, copes with societal fears and needs for protection, and deals with internal factionalism and class issues. Teachers will include Rabbis Moti Bar-Or and Shlomo Fox, Professors Uriel Simon, Rachel Elior, Amnon Rubenstein. The trip includes important site visits. Cost: \$1,495 + airfare (fee covers dbl occupancy, study, hotel and some meals).

Part II: Women's Retreat at Hamidrasha, Israel

Thursday, July 8 - Monday, July 12 (Open to BJ member women only): Join Rabbi Sol in connecting with our friends at Hamidrasha and their work in Israel. The trip includes home hospitality except for Shabbat, which will be spent with the women of Hamidrasha at a retreat center in Northern Israel. Approximate cost: \$300 + airfare.

Registration is available for Part I, Part II or for both parts. Applications are available now at the BJ office. For more information, call Anne at x240.

PART III: Sulha Peace Project: Healing The Children Of Abraham

Aug. 17, 18, 19: Participate in the 4th annual Sulha Peace Project gathering with Naomi Meyer, in Park Shuni (near Binjamina), Israel. The Sulha Peace Project is an indigenous Middle Eastern way of reconciliation. The project's goal is to rebuild trust among neighbors, Arabs and Jews, people to people, by organizing community-oriented gatherings between Arabs and Jews in their own towns and villages. These gatherings are set in familiar cultural environments rich in food, dance, music, dialogue circles and sacred ritual from Arab and Jewish traditions. More details to follow, go to www.metasulha.org, or call Anne at x240 for info.

SINGLES

• **NOTE: the Darna dinner has been moved from June 11 to June 25.**

• **2001, 2002, 2003 Retreat Reunion Oneg**

May 21, after 6:45 PM service, 86th Street Parlor Room: Join us for a special evening of schmoozing and reminiscing. (Bonfires, Boating and Bar-B-Ques). For 2001, 2002, 2003 Retreat participants only. Please RSVP to x260 and you MUST present the mailed invitation at the door for admittance.

HEBREW SCHOOL AND FAMILY LIFE

• **Save the dates: Kitah Bet Simhat Talmud Torah Dinner & Kiddush Friday Night, May 14:** Join us for Kabbalat Shabbat Services at 6 PM at 88th St., followed by dinner at the 86th Street Chapel at SPSA. **Saturday Morning, May 15:** Come to the 9:30 AM service at 86th St. Your children will give a special Simhat Talmud Torah presentation, followed by kiddush in the Chapel. \$25 adults, \$20 children. To register, send in a check to B'nai Jeshurun Hebrew School, at our BJ office. For info, contact Dalya at x241 or dlevy@bj.org.

• **BJHS REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FOR 2004-2005**

BJHS Registration applications for 2004-05 school year were sent out a few weeks ago. Please send in your application to reserve your space for next year. If you haven't received an application in the mail, let us know and we will send you one or you can download the forms from www.bj.org, Hebrew School, BJHS Registration Form 2004-2005.

SOCIAL ACTION/SOCIAL JUSTICE

• **BJ Rallies to End Chronic Homelessness**

Thursday, May 13, 7-9 PM, NEW LOCATION: St. Paul's Chapel (Church St., between Fulton St. and Vesey St.): Join Rabbi Matalon and volunteers from the BJ/SPSA Homeless shelter for the annual Interfaith Convocation and Vigil to raise awareness concerning homelessness in NYC. BJ is organizing a delegation of 20 members to stand together in solidarity for this important march from just 7-9 PM (though you can stay overnight if you choose). We are short 13 participants and need you to stand and be counted with us! Just 2 hours of your time will have a big impact. To sign up, contact Robert Imershein at rimershein@capstarny.com or 212-339-4250.

• **Shabbat Visits to St. Luke's Hospital**

Many patients feel lonely and isolated in a hospital. Our goal, as part of the Bikkur Holim (visiting the sick) Committee, is to be there on Friday afternoon to wish them a Shabbat Shalom and a Refuah Shleimah (complete healing). We need more volunteers to help visit about 3 or 4 patients on a Friday. Please call or E-mail Elaine Nevins for more details, 212-799-1782 or ENE6695059@aol.com.

• **World Trade Center Health Registry**

For all BJ members who responded to 9/11 by working at St. Paul's Church: Please take time to learn more about the WTC Health Registry. The registry is attempting to study the full scope of the health effects related to 9/11. Through information provided, guidelines will hopefully be developed that may save lives and reduce injuries in future disaster settings. For further information, contact the registry at 1-866-NYC-WTCR (1-866-692-9827) or on the web at www.wtcregistry.org.

• **Panim el Panim Environmental Action FAIR TRADE COFFEE CAMPAIGN**

Get involved with Panim el Panim's first action campaign and help promote the availability and consumption of fair-trade coffee in our neighborhood! Launched last Shabbat, our campaign began with BJ's pledge to serve fair-trade coffee and tea at all events. As the campaign gains momentum over the next few weeks, there will be numerous opportunities for action. You can start now by canvassing your regular food stores to carry fair-trade coffee. We will be canvassing the major food stores and restaurants on the Upper West Side to persuade them to offer fair-trade coffee, and the more requests they get, the more likely they are to agree. Get involved and call us at BJ's Environmental Action Hotline at x310. Learn more about fair trade at www.transfairusa.org.

• **More about South Wing to Zion**

Founded in 1991, South Wing to Zion is the only Ethiopian-Israeli organization which advocates on behalf of the Beta Israel in Ethiopia while assisting those already living in Israel. For further information and tax-deductible contributions, contact Lisa Schachner at Friends of South Wing to Zion: 212-794-1904 or fswzny@msn.com.

• **WANTED: People Who Love To Knit And Crochet, for the Judith Bernstein Lunch Program**

This winter we distributed 150 holiday gift packages for our lunch program guests. Each package included a warm hat, scarf, or gloves, many hand-made and contributed by BJ members and friends. We want to do even better this year! If you like to knit or crochet, we hope you'll make hats and scarves for our holiday packages. For info, contact Susan at x338 or sssamuels@aol.com. Bring finished items to the BJ Office, c/o Judith Bernstein Lunch Program.

• **Do You Love The Music Of BJ's Shabbat Services?**

You can take it home with you by purchasing our CD, "With Every Breath," featuring Rabbis Roly Matalon and Marcelo Bronstein and Cantor Ari Priven. Cost: \$18. You can also purchase our Pesah CD, "HaLailah Hazeh," or the Pesah songbook, for \$18 each, or our newest CD and songbook, "TekiYah: Echoes of the High Holy Days at BJ," for \$18 each. Buy online at www.bj.org, or drop by the office between 9:00 and 4:30, Monday-Thursday, and until 2:30 on Friday.

• **BJ is looking for experienced grant writers** to help us with foundation applications. Contact Deborah Pinsky at x254 or dpinsky@bj.org.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Kol Jeshurun Layout and Editing: David Ebenbach

WELCOME TO B'NAI JESHURUN! If you are unfamiliar with our services, see our "Welcome to BJ" brochure at the back of the sanctuary, or ask an usher.

• **Membership at B'nai Jeshurun:** Are you considering joining BJ? Would you like information about becoming a member? BJ is also pleased that visitors choose to connect with us when they are in town. Why don't you consider joining our community as a BJ Friend? Contact Membership Director Belinda Lasky at x224 or blasky@bj.org.

• **A Note from the Ushers:** For those at the Friday night service at 88th St., please return your siddurim to the back of the sanctuary as you leave. Place damaged books or tallitot in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary. We ask that men wear kippot upon entering the sanctuary and during services. We do not allow food in the sanctuary. So that we may prepare for the comfort and security of all, doors open 30 minutes before the services begin.

We attempt to be as accurate as possible concerning the information contained in the Kol Jeshurun. Due to the tight deadlines under which we work, errors can sometimes occur. We apologize in advance for any mistakes. If you need any Hebrew words translated, please call Rabbi Jessica Zimmerman, x253 or Rabbi Meir Feldman, x264.

D'VAR TEFILLAH

Sunday is Lag (lamed-gimel) b'Omer – the 33rd day of the Counting of the Omer. It is a day of celebration. Many traditional Jews get their hair cut on this day, since it is the only day during the Omer which is not considered a day of mourning. In Israel, there are many bonfires on Lag b'Omer. Why is it important to stop our communal mourning on this day?

– Rabbi Jessica Zimmerman

FOCUS ON ISRAEL

As an outgrowth of our mission to make Israel a central focus of BJ and to further the vision of Israel as a modern Jewish, pluralistic democracy, we are beginning a new column in the Kol Jeshurun, "Focus on Israel." We hope to present a variety of topics, including speaker profiles, information about our Israeli partnerships, excerpts from and commentary about texts on Israel, and discussions of education, spirituality, and social justice in Israel.

Religious courts in Israel wield the full coercive power of the state, issuing orders and judgments that are enforceable and appealable as are those of secular courts.

The religious courts for Jews are Rabbinical courts, and they have exclusive jurisdiction over marriage and divorce. In matters of child custody, support, and division of marital property, civil Family Courts have concurrent jurisdiction. This sometimes leads to a race to the preferred courthouse. Even if the wife races for the Family Court and gets there before the husband gets to the religious court, husbands often use their power to withhold a *get* in order to coerce the wife into giving up whatever relief she may have obtained there.

Until three years ago, Muslim religious courts, Sharia courts, had exclusive jurisdiction over all issues of personal status. In 1999, women's and human rights organizations spearheaded an effort to establish concurrent Family Court jurisdiction over child support and maintenance, which was successful despite the opposition of Muslim political parties, Muslim religious leaders, and Muslim MKs. The jurisdiction of Christian religious courts and of Druze religious courts is similar to that of Rabbinical courts. And what if the parties to a dispute involving these issues belong to different religious communities? Then the president of the Supreme Court has the power to decide which religious court will have jurisdiction.

Many people, secular and religious alike, are not comfortable with the religious court system in Israel (or anywhere else, for that matter). Prominent Israeli feminists like Alice Shalvi have argued for many years that the religious court system contributes to the depressed status of women. Feminists of all religions and religious streams join with other progressive activists in calling for civil marriage and divorce so that religious courts are available for those who choose them but are not imposed upon those who do not.

Kathleen Peratis, Board Member and Co-chair of the Social Action Task Force (panim el panim)

PLEASE SEE THE BACK OF THE SANCTUARY FOR FLYERS AND MORE INFO ON:

• Welcome to BJ • Membership at BJ • Membership Packets • BJ Annual Catalogue • Limud Catalogue • Bikkur Holim • New Havurot Applications